S
363.7384
H2PLPS
AUG 1990

Montana State Library
3 0864 1005 9434 3

August 1990

STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION
OCT 05 1995
MONTANA STATE LIBRARY
1515 E. 6th AVE.
HELENA, MONTANA 59620

# Progress

## Idaho Pole Superfund site

By the Montana Department of Health and Environmental Sciences and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

# MDHES places Idaho Pole Superfund administrative record

The Montana Department of Health and Environmental Sciences (MDHES) has established an administrative record of Superfund documents for the Idaho Pole Superfund site. The administrative record is housed in Bozeman in the Bozeman Public Library reference section and in Helena at the Solid and Hazardous Waste Bureau office at 836 Front Street. MDHES will hold a 30-day public comment period for the administrative record from August 15 through September 15, 1990. This comment period will allow the public time to review the administrative record and submit comments on such things as completeness, record location, availability, content and organization. This administrative record is the collection of materials which documents the basis for the selection of a cleanup alternative at the Idaho Pole Superfund site. Under Superfund law, the MDHES is required to make an administrative record available at or near all state-lead Superfund sites. Individuals and organizations who have participated on the Idaho Pole project are specifically requested to review the record in order to assure that all pertinent documents are included.

The administrative record is open for public review during normal business hours at both the library and the Solid and Hazardous Waste Bureau offices. The record is kept in file cabinets and is treated as a non-circulating reference document. This will allow the public greater access to the information and also minimize the risk of loss or damage. The public is welcome to make photocopies of any documents in the file. A copier is located at the library.

If you find a document missing from the file, please call state Superfund Public Information Officer Janie Stiles in Helena at 1-800-648-8465. MDHES will add documents to the record file as site work progresses. The administrative records will remain in Bozeman and Helena indefinitely. Anyone with questions about the administrative record is encouraged to call Kevin Kirley at the above phone number. Please send comments about the record to Site Project Officer Kevin Kirley, Montana Department of Health and Environmental Sciences, SHWB, Cogswell Building, Helena, MT 59620. Comments must be postmarked by midnight September 15, 1990.

# Citizens group forming

Residents of Bozeman have expressed an interest in forming a citizens group for the Idaho Pole site. MDHES held an informational public meeting July 12 in Bozeman. MDHES and those attending discussed the formation of a citizens group for the site. Citizen groups have formed at the Livingston, Butte and Milltown sites and have become actively involved in site issues and planning. The Idaho Pole group will work closely with MDHES and EPA staff to understand site issues and to help communicate those issues to the Bozeman community. A citizens group helps MDHES and EPA become aware of community concerns and questions. The group may also be eligible for a $50,000 EPA technical assistance grant to acquire the services of a consultant to help the group interpret technical site documents.

Anyone interested in learning more about the group is encouraged to call Site Project Manager Kevin Kirley or Superfund Public Information Officer Janie Stiles at 1-800-648-8465 at MDHES in Helena.

# Historic resources considered

As part of the Superfund process, MDHES and EPA are required to conduct a cultural resources inventory. The inventory identifies characteristics of a site that have historical, prehistorical and architectural significance, or have contributed to broad patterns of culture. The Idaho Pole site draft inventory resulted in a preliminary finding by MDHES that the structures do not exhibit these characteristics. MDHES will make a final decision and the State Historic Preservation Officer will offer or deny concurrence.

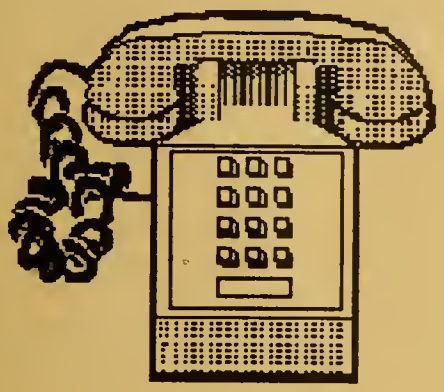
MDHES consultants walked across the site in transects of 30 feet and less, checking for the presence of cultural materials. They checked 23 backhoe pits on site for any historic and archaeological remnants but found none. Information was also gained from State Historic Preservation Office records and other available literature. Two prehistoric sites exist within a mile of, but not currently on, the site. Three potentially historic areas on the site were evaluated. They included two farms and the Northern Pacific Railroad structures.

Bohart home: The Bohart residence is located at the corner of "L" Street and Cedar. The buildings consist of a house, garage and shop. MDHES made a preliminary finding of no cultural significance because the original house has been changed.

Bibber Farmstead: The Bibber farm is located two blocks north of the Idaho Pole Company plant. The structures include a house, root cellar, garage, chicken house, horse barn and shed. Because the house has been modified and new buildings added to the original site, MDHES's preliminary finding was that there is no historical significance.

Northern Pacific Railyard: The railyard facilities were located in the area of what is now the Idaho Pole Company yard. The structures include a concrete roundhouse foundation, small brick building, coal dock foundations and water tower footings. The roundhouse and other structures were torn down in the 1940s and 1950s, although the brick building was not disturbed and is still standing. MDHES made the preliminary finding that although the site is associated with historically significant events, it retains too little integrity to convey that historic association.

In conclusion, the MDHES draft determination is that no significant cultural resources will be impacted by site activities.



## TOLL-FREE SUPERFUND HOTLINE

If you have questions, comments or concerns about a Superfund site in Montana, or about Superfund in general, please call our toll-free hotline. The hotline is in operation from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, except holidays.
In-state use only!

1-800-648-8465

## ARE YOU ON OUR MAILING LIST?

If you did not receive this Progress Report in the mail and wish to be placed on the mailing list for future publications about the Idaho Pole Superfund site, please fill out, detach, and mail this form to: Janie Stiles, Montana Department of Health and Environmental Sciences, Cogswell Building, Helena, MT 59620.

Name_____

Address_____

City, State_____ Zip Code_____

500 copies of this public document were published at an estimated cost of .20898 per copy, for a total cost of 104.49 which includes 53.34 for printing and 51.15 for distribution